CLAIMS

1. A method for processing speech audio in a network connected client device comprising:

selecting a speech grammar for use in a speech recognition system in the network connected client device;

characterizing the selected speech grammar; and,

based on the characterization, determining whether to process the speech grammar locally in the network connected client device, or remotely in a speech server in the network.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with a speech server; and,

querying said speech server for a speech grammar over said established communications session.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with a speech server; and,

selecting a speech grammar stored in the network connected device; and,

uploading the selected speech grammar to the speech server.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein said selecting step further comprises:

registering said speech grammar in said speech recognition system.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

determining whether said selected speech grammar is a complex speech grammar.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

identifying in said speech grammar a pre-determined characterization.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said pre-determined characterization is a pre-determined complexity.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein said pre-determined characterization specifies a pre-determined preference for processing said speech grammar either locally or remotely.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said pre-determined characterization further specifies a location of a server for remotely processing said speech grammar.

10. A network distributable speech grammar configured for distribution to network connected client devices comprising:

a speech grammar; and,

a pre-determined characterization of said speech grammar, said pre-determined characterization associated with said speech grammar.

11. The network distributable speech grammar of claim 10, wherein said pre-determined characterization is a pre-determined complexity.

12. The network distributable speech grammar of claim 10, wherein said pre-determined characterization specifies a pre-determined preference for processing said speech grammar either locally or remotely.

13. The network distributable speech grammar of claim 12, wherein said pre-determined characterization further specifies a location of a server for remotely processing said speech grammar.

14. A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for processing speech audio in a network connected client device, said computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

selecting a speech grammar for use in a speech recognition system in the network connected client device;

characterizing the selected speech grammar; and,

based on the characterization, determining whether to process the speech grammar locally in the network connected client device, or remotely in a speech server in the network.

15. The machine readable storage of claim 14, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with a speech server; and,

querying said speech server for a speech grammar over said established communications session.

16. The machine readable storage of claim 14, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with a speech server; and,

selecting a speech grammar stored in the network connected device; and,

uploading the selected speech grammar to the speech server.

17. The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said selecting step further comprises:

registering said speech grammar in said speech recognition system.

18. The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

determining whether said selected speech grammar is a complex speech grammar.

19. The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

identifying in said speech grammar a pre-determined characterization.

20. The machine readable storage of claim 19, wherein said pre-determined characterization is a pre-determined complexity.

21. The machine readable storage of claim 19, wherein said pre-determined characterization specifies a pre-determined preference for processing said speech grammar either locally or remotely.

22. The machine readable storage of claim 21, wherein said pre-determined characterization further specifies a location of a server for remotely processing said speech grammar.